<u>REMARKS</u>

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 9, 2007. Claims 1, 2, 4 to 12, 17, 18, 36, 37, 39 to 47, 52, 53, 71, 119 and 120 are pending in the application, with Claims 14 to 16, 32 to 35, 49 to 51, 67 to 70, 74 and 121 having been cancelled herein. Claims 1, 36 and 71 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4 to 12, 14 to 18, 32 to 37, 39 to 47, 49 to 53, 67 to 71, 74 and 119 to 121 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Amendments to the claims are believed to obviate the rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 32, 36, 67, 71 and 74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Amendments to the claims are believed to obviate the rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 36 and 71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Amendments to the claims are believed to obviate the rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4 to 9, 11, 12, 14 to 18, 32 to 37, 39 to 44, 46, 47, 49 to 53, 67 to 71, 74 and 119 to 121 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,644,776 (DeRose). Claims 10 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over DeRose in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,073,148 (Rowe). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Referring specifically to the language of the claims, independent Claim 1 defines a method of browsing electronically-accessible resources using descriptions of the

resources. The method comprises reading the descriptions of the resources, the descriptions being separate from the content of the resources and comprising descriptor components classified as either table-of-contents descriptor components or index descriptor components, each the table-of-contents descriptor component having a link to a corresponding portion of the electronically-accessible resources. The method also comprises displaying items for selection, each displayed item corresponding to a table-of-contents descriptor component of a description read in the reading step, receiving a selection of one or more of the displayed items, displaying further items for selection, the further items corresponding to index descriptor components that are associated with the one or more table-of-contents descriptor components corresponding to the selected one or more items, and receiving a selection of one of the further items. The method also comprises receiving a representative value associated with the selected further item, forming a query from the index descriptor component corresponding to the selected further item and the received representative value, searching the read description to return one or more table-of-contents descriptor components that satisfy the query and are contained in the one or more table-of-contents descriptor components corresponding to the selected one or more items, and displaying for selection one or more still further items corresponding to the one or more returned table-of-contents descriptor components.

Independent Claims 36 and 71 are directed to an apparatus and computer readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1.

The applied reference is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 1, 36 and 71, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of displaying further items for selection, the further items corresponding

to index descriptor components that are associated with one or more table-of-contents descriptor components corresponding to selected one or more items, receiving a selection of one of the further items, receiving a representative value associated with the selected further item, forming a query from an index descriptor component corresponding to the selected further item and the received representative value, searching a read description to return one or more table-of-contents descriptor components that satisfy the query and are contained in the one or more table-of-contents descriptor components corresponding to the selected one or more items, and displaying for selection one or more still further items corresponding to the one or more returned table-of-contents descriptor components.

In contrast, DeRose is seen to disclose merely that "A user may also have a directed path, bookmark, history log or other list of preselected starting points. A user may also perform a search for a word based on the full text index, in known ways of the type as shown in the displays of FIGS. 12-13, to begin rendering at a selected occurrence of a word. Additionally, a document, while being rendered, may cause possible cross-references to be displayed, as shown in FIGS. 13-14. These cross-references may also be used to select a starting point for rendering of the document." (column 15, lines 51 to 60 of DeRose). However, DeRose is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of displaying further items for selection, the further items corresponding to index descriptor components that are associated with one or more table-of-contents descriptor components corresponding to selected one or more items, receiving a selection of one of the further items, receiving a representative value associated with the selected further item, forming a query from an index descriptor component corresponding to the selected further item and the received representative value, searching a read description to return one or more table-

of-contents descriptor components that satisfy the query and are contained in the one or more table-of-contents descriptor components corresponding to the selected one or more items, and displaying for selection one or more still further items corresponding to the one or more returned table-of-contents descriptor components.

The remaining applied reference, namely Rowe, is not seen to cure the deficiencies of DeRose, either alone or in any permissible combination. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 36 and 71 are believed to be allowable.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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